

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : J. S. Peelman *JSP*

FROM : J. McDonough *Jm*

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 12/22/76

1 - Mr. Lawn

Asst. Dir. _____
Dep. AD Adm. _____
Dep. AD Inv. _____
Asst. Dir. _____
Adm. _____
Comp. Syst. _____
Ext. Affairs _____
Files & Com. _____
Gen. Inv. _____
Ident. _____
Inspection _____
Intell. _____
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Spec. Inv. _____
Training _____
Telephone Rm. _____
Director Sec'y _____

On December 21, 1976, Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR) representative Jim Kieckhofer interviewed Unit Chief Edward J. McDonough, Civil Rights Section, relative to his knowledge of the supervision of the Murkin case in 1968. In line with Kieckhofer's questions, he was advised that Special Agent (SA) Richard E. Long was the case Supervisor, SA Edward J. McDonough was Unit Chief, SA Joseph G. Kelly was Number One Man and SA Clement L. McGowan was Section Chief and the mail relating to leads and developments in the investigation were handled in that chain of command. With respect to communications from legal attaches, Kieckhofer was advised that the originals came to the General Investigative Division (GID), were processed through the section chief to the case supervisor and copies of these communications also went to the liaison section at the Bureau. He was advised that pertinent developments were brought to the attention of the Number One Man, James R. Malley and Assistant Director Alex Rosen and from thence through the chain of command to the attention of the Director as evidenced by notes on teletypes and/or memos in the Murkin file.

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With respect to supervision of the case, he was advised that the Special Agent In Charge in the field had primary responsibility for running the case in the field and the Bureau had supervisory responsibility to suggest leads, arrange support facilities, keep officials advised and in general maintain overall administrative supervision of the case. He inquired as to who originated the search of fingerprint records to identify the assailant and he was advised that it was SA McDonough's recollection that Mr. Rosen may have instituted the search although the potential had been the topic of general discussion previously.

EJM:rat (2)

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Memorandum to Mr. Peelman
Re: MURKIN

In response to Kieckhofer's questions, he was advised that although SA McDonough was aware that there had been a Bureau Domestic Intelligence Division (DID) investigation on Martin Luther King, Jr., this had no effect on our efforts to solve this murder and the Bureau went all out on it. In response to his inquiry as to whether the DID had been contacted or consulted, he was advised that the GID had received some input and suggested leads from DID some of which may have been pursued and others may not have been run out and it was believed that justification pro and con may have been reflected in memos in the file.

In response to this inquiry, Kieckhofer was advised that the investigative aspects were primarily handled and pursued by the Bureau and we only discussed aspects of the case with the Department where some legal ramification might be involved such as the extradition and the like; however, the Department was kept advised of developments through informative memos and reports which were disseminated to the Department on a timely basis.

ACTION: For Information.

8 pm